

**RECOMENDATION:** The Educational Technology Committee (ETC) highly recommends the following:

1. Adopting Canvas as our sole Course Management System (CMS) by fall 2016, thus replacing Blackboard.
2. Joining the statewide Online Education Initiative Exchange (OEI or OEI Exchange or simply, the Exchange), 18-months after adopting Canvas.
3. Using the resources developed and provided by the OEI, such as tutoring platforms, readiness tools, professional development and course design rubrics.

**What is the OEI Exchange?** The OEI Exchange is a statewide collaborative effort among California Community Colleges committed to increasing student success and retention in online courses by working together to expand online learning and provide access to quality online courses and student services. The “Exchange” refers to an initiative allowing students to take online classes across a group of participating colleges within the consortium. (For more information, see <http://ccconlineed.org/documents/category>)

**BACKGROUND:** The Governor wants to increase access to online classes to help students complete educational goals. \$56.9 million was budgeted as a one-time grant for 5 years for the community colleges to set up a system-wide exchange of online classes offered by individual colleges but open to matriculated students from any college. The overall goal is completion (degrees, certificates, transfer). Important secondary goals are to increase retention and success in DE, and to increase DE access for basic skills. (For greater detail, see <http://ccconlineed.org/>)

ETC highly recommends joining the OEI Exchange for the following reasons:

1. The OEI Exchange is good for students.
  - a. Students frequently cite schedule conflicts or course waitlists as their primary stumbling blocks to completing their education in a timely manner. The Exchange will provide the opportunity for colleges to offer quality online courses to students across colleges so that students can complete their education in a timely manner.
  - b. Students enrolled at colleges in the Exchange will be able to seamlessly register for Exchange courses across different colleges. So, with the OEI, students will have access to a greater selection of quality online courses.
  - c. The OEI will increase our student’s ability to succeed by providing access to online tutoring, online readiness tools, and ways to increase proficiency in basic skills areas.
2. The OEI Exchange is good for CHC and faculty.
  - a. The OEI Exchange will allow CHC to serve more students and in a broader capacity.
  - b. The OEI Exchange benefits participating colleges by increasing enrollments in both high demand and difficult-to-fill courses.
  - c. The OEI Exchange will assist CHC faculty in achieving more successful outcomes in their online courses.
  - d. With OEI funding, our faculty can collaborate, receive professional development, access support services, and participate in continuous innovation in online education.
  - e. With the OEI Exchange, faculty will have access to products and services that enhance online course delivery.

- f. The OEI ensures that CHC will be a relevant choice for students in the technological age, especially with respect to the future of online education.

**CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE OEI EXCHANGE:**

- Courses within the OEI Exchange must be offered in the Canvas common course management system (CCMS) to allow for all processes to be successfully implemented, including the deployment of OEI-provided resources (including student resources, technology resources and faculty resources). Furthermore, to avoid student confusion when taking courses across the Exchange, participation by a college in the Exchange is contingent on the CCMS being the only CMS used by colleges in the consortium.
- Exchange courses must be aligned to the adopted Course Design Rubric as established by the OEI Steering Committee, and therefore will be part of the OEI review process.

**SUMMARY:** If we (CHC) choose to join the OEI Exchange, then we must first adopt Canvas as our campus CMS. So, the main question for our consideration is should CHC join the OEI Exchange? For the aforementioned reasons, ETC thinks that it is in the best interests of our students, college and faculty to embrace the OEI Exchange as an opportunity to lead CHC into the future of online education. It is also an opportunity for CHC to innovate and collaborate with other colleges. So, after careful consideration the ETC highly recommends participation in the OEI Exchange.